

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register: 21 June 2004
Name of applicant/court: Manukau District Court
Applicant to the Labelling Body: Not Applicable
Title of Publication: 18eighteen August 2003
Other Known Title(s): Eighteen August 2003
Director(s): Not Applicable
Producer(s): Not Applicable
Publisher: The Score Group
Editor(s): Christopher James
Format: Magazine
Country of Origin: USA
Language(s): English

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Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature:	Running Time:
Trailers:	Running Time:
	Total Running Time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Note: A Serial Publication Order has been imposed on all issues of *18eighteen* magazine published between 22 June 2004 and 21 June 2006.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The magazine entitled *18eighteen August 2003* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The magazine promotes and supports the exploitation of young persons for sexual purposes as outlined under s3(2)(a) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act).

The magazine explicitly depicts females, said to be schoolgirls, in various states of undress and/or engaging in sex. Even though some text states the models are 18, nearly all of them appear younger. They have a young physical appearance and are deliberately presented in a manner making it appear they are aged in their mid-teens, such as being dressed in clothing associated with young teenagers. Text accompanying the photographs, supposedly involving comments of the models, mimics the language of young teenagers and reinforces their naivety, their interest in sex but lack of sexual experience and that they are still at school and under parental supervision. Other text also promotes attitudes and behaviours encouraging readers to view young persons as sexually desirable and to sexually exploit them, such as giving advice to adult readers on how to get schoolgirls to have sex with them and salaciously describing sexual activity between schoolgirls and older men. The impression is given that young persons, specifically teenage schoolgirls, are sexually active or wish to be sexually active, desire to have sex with adult men and are readily sexually available. The magazine establishes and reinforces the notion that sex between adults and young persons is legitimate and advantageous to both parties, and in doing so normalises such sexual activity.

As the publication meets criteria listed in s3(2) of the FVPC Act, it is deemed to be objectionable. A classification of "objectionable" interferes with the right to the freedom of expression as set out in s14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, in relation to this publication, the classification is considered to be a reasonable limit prescribed by law that can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.

OFLC No: 400616